

HUMAN SERVICES & HEALTH DEPARTMENT

199 COUNTY ROAD DF + JUNEAU, WISCONSIN 53039-9512 920-386-3500

Becky Bell, Director

For Immediate Release: 9/18/2020

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Dodge County Public Health Moves Back to Phase 1 effective immediately

Dodge County, WI: The COVID-19 health crisis continues to grow. To date, Wisconsin has a confirmed case count of 97,279 individuals who have contracted the virus. In Dodge County, to date, there are 1,538 confirmed cases, with 256 currently active.

Due to increased Covid-19 activity and hospitalizations, Dodge County will transition back to Phase 1. Phase 1 recommendations include:

- Limiting capacity in "non-essential" businesses, bars, restaurants and organizations to 25%
- Events held outdoors should allow for all people to maintain 6 feet physical distance from others
- If community members choose to gather socially, private indoor social gathering should be limited to 10 people or less with physical distancing

"To see our daily case count decrease, Dodge County Public Health needs our community to be vigilant and take responsibility for themselves to follow our recommendations," said Abby Sauer, Dodge County Public Health Officer, "We need to do this to keep our healthcare systems from being overwhelmed and to keep our schools open."

Moving to Phase 1 <u>does not</u> directly affect Dodge County schools. School have been actively collaborating with Dodge County Public Health; school will continue to follow their plans and our guidance.

Dodge County Public Health asks that all community members follow these measures:

- **Limiting your bubble.** Consider how many people you are seeing day to day. The more people you socialize with, the greater the chance you will be exposed or will expose others. By limiting your social circle to less people, you will lower your risk and the risk of others.
- **Minimizing trips out.** Plan ahead so you can get all the things you need at once. Use online ordering or curbside pickup for lower risk options.
- **Gathering outside instead of inside.** Don't forget to physically distance yourself and wear a cloth face covering too.
- Continuing to participate virtually. Work from home if possible and attend events, services, and performances virtually.
- Getting tested if you need it. Through your medical provider or community test sites.
- **Continuing to maintain prevention measures.** Stay home when you're sick or feel off, stay six feet from people you don't live with, wear a face covering when you can't maintain distance, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your elbow, and wash your hands and use hand sanitizer often.

The community is encouraged to visit the Dodge County website for latest guidance and resources: www.co.dodge.wi.gov

For general questions, the public may call the Dodge County Public Health COVID-19 Hotline: 920-386-4304.

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